AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method for tightening skin, comprising:

generating a broadband spectrum of near infrared radiation with a filament light source;

filtering the radiation to produce a spectrum having a wavelength band principally between 1050nm and 1850nm;

placing a transmissive material in contact with an upper surface of the skin to be treated;

transmitting the filtered radiation generated by the light source through the transmissive material to the skin;

cooling the transmissive material; and

wherein the radiation transmitted to the skin and the cooling of the transmissive material create an inverted temperature profile in the skin, such that the upper surface of the skin is cooler than an area of skin below the upper surface, and wherein the radiation is transmitted to the skin for a continuous period of time of between approximately 1.2 (one and two-tenths) seconds and 5 (five) seconds and provides for heating a volume of dermis in the skin, which is at a depth of between 1 mm to 5 mm below the upper surface of the skin, to a treatment temperature which is at least 50°C while maintaining the regions of the dermis at depths shallower than 1 mm at temperatures below the treatment temperature, wherein the skin is tightened as a result of heating the volume of dermis.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 further comprising, starting the cooling of the transmissive material prior to transmitting radiation to the skin.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 further comprising, continuing the cooling of the transmissive material during the transmission of radiation to the skin.

Claims 18-21. (Cancelled).

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising,

continuing the cooling of the transmissive material for a predetermined time period after the termination of the transmission of radiation to the skin;

providing a notification signal to the user signaling the end of the predetermined time period; and

maintaining contact between the transmissive material and the skin until after the notification signal is provided.

Claims 23-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the treatment temperature is at least 60°C.

Claim 34-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein transmitting light energy from the light source includes applying a plurality of electrical current pulses to the filament of the filament light source, wherein a first pulse of the plurality of the electrical current pulses is the longest pulse of the plurality of pulses and operates to bring the filament to a temperature which results in the filament light source emitting light.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein transmitting light energy from the light source the transmitting step includes:

applying a plurality of electrical pulses to the filament of the filament light source;

sensing light produced by the filament; and

when a power of the light produced by the filament drops below a first power level, applying a pulse of electrical current to the filament.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the filament light source is provided on a handpiece, wherein the method includes providing a visual indication on the handpiece, wherein providing the notification signal includes discontinuing the visual indication after the end of the predetermined time period.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 wherein providing the notification signal includes sounding an auditory signal after the end of the predetermined time period.

Claims 44-49. (Cancelled)